

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DURBAN 00337 031050Z

11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 SCCT-01 COME-00 EB-07

LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-10 /059 W  
----- 109692

R 031012Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2039

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 0337

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ELAB, SF

SUBJ: POLICE REINFORCEMENTS DISPATCHED FOLLOWING FURTHER  
CLASH AT NEWCASTLE

REF: DURBAN 336

1. TENSENESS IN NEWCASTLE'S MADADENI AND OSIZWENI TOWNSHIPS CONTINUED THROUGHOUT OCT. 2 CULMINATING IN CONFRONTATION BETWEEN POLICE AND AFRICANS, SOME OF WHOM HAD SEIZED WHITE HOSTAGES. ACCORDING VARIOUS PRESS ACCOUNTS, DAY OF OCT. 2 OTHERWISE WAS RELATIVELY QUIET WITH BUS SERVICE OPERATING WITH DAMAGED EQUIPMENT, AND GENERALLY HALF FULL, UNDER POLICE ESCORT WITH POLICE MANNING STRATEGIC POINTS THROUGHOUT AREA.

2. MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT OCCURRED SHORTLY BEFORE DARK OCT. 2 WHEN SMALL NUMBER OF POLICE ENTERED COMPOUND HOUSING SOME 7000 ISCOR WORKERS TO BARGAIN FOR FREEDOM OF WHITES BEING HELD BY WORKERS. WORKERS REPORTEDLY REJECTED POLICE APPEALS AND BECAME AGGRESSIVE, AT WHICH STAGE POLICE EMPLOYED TEAR GAS ON CROWD NUMBERING THEN SOME 400. POLICE CONTINGENT THEN RUSHED COMPOUND AND SUCCEEDED IN LIBERATING WHITE PRISONERS AT COST OF THREE POLICE SERIOUSLY INJURED AND ONE AFRICAN  
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PAGE 02 DURBAN 00337 031050Z

SHOT DEAD.

3. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INCIDENT STRONG FORCE OF POLICE FROM DURBAN AND SURROUNDING AREAS, INCLUDING 17 POLICE DOG HANDLERS, WERE CALLED UP AND DISPATCHED TO NEWCASTLE. POLICE REINFORCEMENTS ALSO WERE ORDERED TO STAND BY AT STATIONS THROUGHOUT NATAL IN VIEW CONTINUING TENSE SITUATION.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEWCASTLE HAS APPEARED FROM, AMONG OTHERS, CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI, SONNY LEON, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN COUNCIL H.E. JOOSUB AND SEVERAL LABOR LEADERS. COMMENT HAS CHARACTERIZED NEWCASTLE DISTURBANCES AS WARNING THAT UNLESS WAGES ARE RAISED FURTHER DISRUPTIONS, INCLUDING WORSE VIOLENCE, CAN BE EXPECTED IN FUTURE.  
FARBER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLICE FORCES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, LABOR DISPUTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975DURBAN00337  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750343-0950  
**From:** DURBAN  
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